

A True Believer

El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz
(Malcolm X)

May 19, 1925 to February 21, 1965

بسمه الرحمن الرحيم

الشيخ
مفتي الإسلام الكبير
شيخ الأزهر

Office of the Supreme
Imam.

Sheikh Al-Azhar.

10/9/1964

In the Name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate.
Thanks to the Almighty, Who has sent His Messenger with guidance and the True Religion in order that it may Prevail over all other religions.

Prayers and peace be upon our great prophet Muhammad who guides to the Truth and to a straight path.

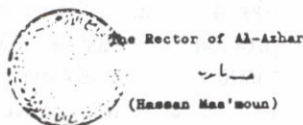
We have received in our office at Al-Azhar Mr. Malkul X who is known now by the name: Malik El-Shabazz, an American citizen who declared his faith and conversion to Islam and he confessed the two Islamic articles saying " I confess that there is no God but Allah and that Mohammad is His Prophet, and Jesus is His servant and Messenger. I ceased to believe in any other religion that contradicts Islam "

After seeing the certificate of the Islamic foundation in New York dated 9/4/1964, and what the Head of the Great court of Islamic law at Jeddah decided in this respect, Mr. Malik's declaration of Islam has been assured to us.

Mr. Malik El-Shabazz (Malkul X) with his true and correct faith is one of the Muslim community, with their rights and obligations and it is his duty to propagate Islam and offer every available assistance and facilities to those who wish conversion to Islam. This is a certificate to whom it may concern.

May God, Almighty, guide him and enlighten his heart by Islam and direct him to the right path.

God's prayers and blessings be upon his prophet Mohammad, his family and his companions.



For all who might forget, let it once again be stated that Brother El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X) was first and foremost a Muslim and a Believer. Above is a reproduction of a statement of his acceptance by the highest official of the oldest and most prestigious of Islamic Educational Institutions — Al-Azhar University. It was written after Brother Malik had taken his Shahada (Public declaration of Faith).

and hinder, and harm others in terms of their "differences" in color."

What better testament could there be to the unifying power of Islam. The faith of over one billion people, comprising one fifth of the human race. This was the only faith Malcolm believed, one that could rid the world of the evils of racism. A faith that rejects the ideas of inherent racial or nationalistic superiority. A faith that acknowledges the nobility of all men as their birthright. This was the only religion whose message was powerful, yet subtle, enough to capture the heart of this man possessed of an indomitable spirit, of resolute convictions and of faith in the Almighty Creator of the Universe.

The change of his name from Malcolm X to El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz symbolized his final stop on the journey from the darkness of erroneous beliefs to the truth and the light of Islam. The entire Muslim community would like to invite every one to the light of faith, reason and humanity. To the light of Islam.

If you have any questions
or need more information
regarding Islam...
Feel Free to call Toll Free!
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In
the name
of Allah.
Most Gracious.
Most Merciful.



MALCOLM
From
Darkness
To
Light

ISLAMIC CIRCLE OF NORTH AMERICA

Born in poverty and obscurity on May 19, 1925, in Omaha, Nebraska, Malcolm Little, the fourth child of Earl and Louise Little, rose to become one of the most dynamic Black Nationalist leaders of his time. Having felt the sting of racism and been denied opportunity from his earliest years, from most, if not all, of the existing institutions of the day. Without the possibility, the hope, of upward mobility. With less than a ninth grade education, a life of crime was practically inevitable for young Malcolm.

After his arrest and subsequent incarceration, Malcolm began reading a variety of literature made available to the prison by a rich philanthropist. Religion, race and world history were his favorite subjects. He also had time enough to review his old lifestyle. He began receiving letters from various family members. Two of his brothers, Philbert and Reginald, began writing him about a religious leader named Elijah Muhammad. At first he thought it was a scam to get his prison sentence cut short. But Malcolm began listening to his younger brother Reginald, who explained about his new faith. And Malcolm became fascinated with the doctrine taught by Elijah Muhammad. Soon after he embraced the "Lost found Nation of Islam", based in Chicago and headed by Elijah Muhammad. Malcolm received his "X" symbolizing his unknown African tribal name. It was also a candidate's first step into the "Nation".

From the time of his release from prison, in 1952, until he left the "Black Muslims", (as the followers of Elijah Muhammad were called in those days), Malcolm X became not only the organization's most articulate spokesman, but one of its architects and most ardent supporters. Malcolm's only concern was to change the condition of his people, long victimized by social injustice and institu-

tionalized racism. His approach to this state of affairs was to focus attention on them, by reminding the powers of his day of their responsibility for those conditions. He stressed the importance of not perpetuating such conditions because of self-hate, ignorance, and substance abuse.

After falling out with Elijah Muhammad in 1963 and leaving the Nation of Islam, Malcolm undertook the journey that every person of the Islamic Faith must fulfill as a religious obligation. The Hajj or pilgrimage to the city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia. These two events culminated in a complete turnaround in Malcolm's views on both his religion and his approach to the problems of racism and oppression of blacks in America.

While performing the pilgrimage rites at the first house of worship built for the worship of the one God, Malcolm saw something he had only heard about, or dreamed of before: the true equality of man, as believers of all colors, and all social levels, stood as one to worship...the one God. Understanding the message of Islam as taught by the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), Malcolm now saw that the problems facing man were usually the direct result of the rejection of those beliefs and practices commanded by God from the earliest times. He also understood that all men could live together as one when they accepted the belief that the best of men are those who sincerely worship God and maintain the duties God has placed on men regarding their interaction and their relationship with one another.

In his own words, as told to Alex Haley, Malcolm wrote "Never have I witnessed such sincere hospitality and such overwhelming spirit of true brotherhood as is practiced by people of all colors and races here in this An-

cient Holy Land, the home of Abraham and all the other Prophets of Holy scriptures. For the past week I have been truly speechless and spellbound by the graciousness I see displayed all around me by people of all colors. I have been blessed to visit the Holy City of Mecca" There were tens of thousands of pilgrims, from all over the world. They were of all colors, from blue eyed blonds to black skinned Africans. But we were all practicing in the same ritual, displaying a spirit of unity and brotherhood that my experiences in America had led me to believe never could exist between the white and the non-white.

"America needs to understand Islam, because this is the one religion that erases from it's society the race problem. Throughout my travels in the Muslim world, I have met, talked to, even eaten with people who in America would have been considered "white", but the "white" attitude had been removed from their minds by the religion of Islam. I have never before seen such sincere and true brotherhood, practiced by all colors together, irrespective of their color.

"You may be shocked by these words coming from me. But on this pilgrimage, what I have seen and experienced has forced me to re-arrange much of the thought patterns previously held, and to toss aside some of my previous conclusions. Despite my firm convictions, I have always been a man who tries to face facts, and to accept the reality of life as new experience and new knowledge unfolds. I have always kept an open mind, a flexibility that must go hand in hand with every form of the intelligent search for truth.

"I could see from this, that perhaps if white Americans could accept the oneness of God, then perhaps, too, they could accept in reality the oneness of man — and cease to measure,